

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554**

In the Matter of:

Petition for Reconsideration of a Decision by the Federal Communications Commission

St. Charles Parish Library, Destrehan, LA

Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism

DA No. 17-385

CC Docket No. 02-6

Applicant:

St. Charles Parish Library
160 W. Campus Drive / P.O. Box 1029
Destrehan, LA 70047

Contact Person:

Jessica Delgado, Systems Administration Librarian
Phone: 985-764-9643 x109
Email: jessica.delgado@myscpl.org

Petition for Reconsideration by St. Charles Parish Library

St. Charles Parish Library requests reconsideration of the Wireline Competition Bureau's decision on its Request for Waiver dated April 28, 2017 concerning 2016 Form 486 Application Numbers 982015, 982312, 983220, 985903, as filed on March 10, 2016 and enclosed as an attachment to this request. Also enclosed is our Letter of Appeal.

As mentioned in our previous Letter of Appeal, I am fairly new to E-rate and still learning its complexities. However, in addition to the intensive amount of knowledge and time required to successfully file all E-rate related forms, our library has been and continues to deal with severe budget strains that exacerbated and contributed to our inability to timely request extensions to the above referenced invoice deadlines.

The State of Louisiana has discontinued its yearly state aid payments, which many libraries use to replace old/outdated technology. This "hit" of \$21,875 per year has caused substantial complications in my position as Systems Administration Librarian, as increasing amounts of my time are spent attending to technology issues our library previously had the resources to deal with.

Further budget cuts have forced the state to ask public libraries to pay approximately \$200,000 toward yearly subscription fees to statewide databases. St. Charles Parish Library has been forced to assume thousands of dollars of additional payments, as well as conduct extensive reviews of available database resources to determine what subscriptions the library may offer or drop in the face of continued cost shifting. In my role as Systems Administration Librarian, I have been intimately involved in these discussions at the local level, further restricting my ability to allot time to E-rate paperwork and deadlines.

St. Charles Parish Library fully intended to file all appropriate Form 486 invoice deadline extension requests referenced above in a prompt and appropriate manner. My newness to the program, as well as the above referenced extenuating circumstances, prevented them from being filed in a timely fashion.

In addition to the situations referenced above, St. Charles Parish Library would suffer a great hardship if it were to lose \$14,747.02 in E-rate funding for data lines, internet, mobile phone, mobile phone data, long distance, and phone services. For a smaller, rural parish in Louisiana, the combined weight of these losses will be staggering.

Therefore, St. Charles Parish Library is filing this petition for reconsideration as an attempt to correct an unfortunate oversight, and because the library simply cannot afford to lose this important E-rate funding. The loss of this funding would create a substantial reduction to our book budget, and will make it more difficult going forward to upgrade internet speeds to keep up with the increasing demands of usage.

We appreciate USAC's hard work and prompt attention to our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Delgado', with a stylized, cursive script.

Jessica Delgado

Enclosures (2)